

many. This however may have been overlooked because of the difficulty of observation in such a large mass of cells.

The fungus was found in prothallia of *Aspidium falcatum*, *Pteris argyria*, and *P. cretica*.

It was first described by Lohde.¹ Subsequently Leitgeb² made it the subject of a thorough investigation, and grew it in a large number of species of fern prothallia.—GEO. F. ATKINSON, *Ithaca, N. Y.*

Lemna Valdiviana in Massachusetts.—Several interesting botanical excursions have been made this year in the lands recently set apart by the state of Massachusetts for public parks.

By notice sent out by the superintendent of planting for the parks, the local botanists have had the opportunity of enjoying a series of pleasant field days and comparing the work done in different portions of the reservations.

One such trip was taken on Sept. 3d through the Blue Hills region, eight miles south of Boston. This public park is thirteen miles in circumference and includes the highest land in eastern Massachusetts (Blue Hill, 636^{ft}), as it is also the highest land on the Atlantic coast from southern Maine to Florida. It has long been locally famous for its rocky ledges, basin-like swamps, and, on its southern side, the extensive meadows and ponds of two sorts, rocky, with clear waters, and marshy, with dark waters.

The most interesting find on that occasion was a *Lemna*, which, so far as comparison with specimens at the Gray Herbarium shows, is *Lemna Valdiviana* Philippi; and I send this note of its occurrence so far north of its usual habitat, and would be very glad to have some southern or western *L. Valdiviana* in exchange.—GEO. G. KENNEDY, *Readville, Mass.*

Puccinia malvacearum.—Some years ago, the late Geo. W. Clinton of Buffalo, N. Y., expressed himself as disappointed because a certain *Ranunculus* did not turn out to be *R. bulbosus*. "Why can't Buffalo have this plant?"

We have rather desired at this place the presence of living *Puccinia malvacearum*, because it was so useful for the class room. This year, for the first time, it has been introduced with some hollyhocks purchased at the east. It has already made serious attacks on half a dozen species of plants in our botanic garden and now that we have it, the thing doesn't seem so funny.—W. J. BEAL, *Agricultural College, Mich.*

¹ Tagblatt der Naturforscherversammlung zu Breslau, 1874.

² Sitzungsbericht der Math.-Naturwiss. Classe d. kaiserliche Akademie der Wissenschaft. Wien 84¹: 288. 1881.